

TO MEMBERS OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE:

I would like to submit the following testimony in OPPOSITION to both HB 5158, An Act Authorizing Bow & Arrow Hunting on Sunday under Certain Conditions; and SB 827, An Act Allowing Falconry.

HB 5158: HARP, Inc. opposes Sunday hunting under ANY circumstances. Hunters already have the opportunity to hunt in Connecticut SIX DAYS A WEEK, while nonhunting citizens and families can only SAFELY recreate without fear of being shot ONE DAY PER WEEK on land where hunting is allowed!

Not only is this unbalanced situation in regard to recreational opportunities unfair to nonhunters, but the vast majority of Connecticut citizens, 97-98%, do not hunt! The question can reasonably be asked why nonhunters are constantly on the defensive in trying to stave off a deterioration in the majority rights of people who do not hunt.

In addition, we oppose this bill because bow & arrow hunting is extremely cruel and can result in wounded animals wandering from the area where they are shot and undergoing intense suffering while bleeding to death.

SB 827: We vehemently oppose removing any animals, including hawks, from their natural habitat. We particularly oppose the exploitation of wildlife and their abuse for human entertainment, as in "falconry" or, more correctly in this case, "hawkery."

Sincerely,

Dr. Nan Zyla, President

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